

The widespread consensus in the international community, particularly after the tragic terrorist attacks of September, 11 in the United States, is that terrorism can never be justified and must be eradicated wherever it exists. India's view that terrorism must be resisted until it is decisively crushed, is widely supported by the international community.

US Failure to accept India's help in fighting terrorism

1267. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US has failed to accept India's help in fighting terrorism; and

(b) if so, the details of the help offered by India to US in fighting terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH):

(a) The United States conveyed a number of specific proposals for India's assistance in the fight against terrorism, including its on-going military campaign "Operation Enduring Freedom" in Afghanistan. Proposals that were in conformity with the existing guidelines for cooperation with friendly countries were approved.

(b) The specific areas of cooperation approved include investigations into the terrorist attacks on 11th September, intelligence sharing on terrorist groups and network, over flight, landing and refuelling facilities for U.S. air missions and port calls by naval ships in support of its campaign. In addition, the two countries are working together, and with other countries, to establish global conventions and standards that strengthen international cooperation in fighting the forces of terror everywhere in the world.

Labelling Pakistan as Terrorist State

1268. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most terrorist organizations operating in Kashmir are enjoying patronage of Pakistan Government and ISI yet the USA have not labelled Pakistan a Terrorist State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that America's own foreign policy changes according to convenience and India must fight its own battle in Kashmir; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH):

(a) The international community is well aware of Pakistan's role in sponsoring, supporting and abetting terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The United States has on a number of occasions, including in its annual report for the year 2000 on Patterns of Global Terrorism, acknowledged links between Pakistan and terrorist organisations. The United States has not placed Pakistan on the list of State sponsors of terrorism.

(b) and (c) During Prime Minister's meeting with U.S. President George Bush on 9th November 2001 in Washington D.C., the two leaders noted that both countries are targets of terrorism and affirmed the need for global war against terrorism and its sponsors everywhere in the world. Earlier, on 5th October 2001, the White House Spokesman had stated at a press briefing that President Bush condemned the terrorist attack in Srinagar on 1st October and that President Bush had also said that "terrorism must end everywhere, and that includes in Kashmir". Besides Harkat-ul-Mujahideen, which had been notified by the U.S. State Department as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation, the U.S. Department of Treasury has notified Jaish-e-Mohammad as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist, alongwith Harkat-ul-Mujahideen and some other Pakistan-based organisations and individuals.

Government believes that India has the will, the strength and the resources to defeat cross-border terrorism. International cooperation, however, can make an important contribution in achieving success in these efforts.

Resumption of Indo-Pak dialogue

1269. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to continue the dialogue with Pakistan in continuation to the Agra Summit;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister refuse to continue the talks even though the Pakistan thinks to continue the same; and

(c) whether Government have imposed and pre-condition to commence the talks with Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH):

(a) to (c) Government have on numerous occasions reiterated India's